

Discussion Summary

Central Northeast Council of Neighborhood Associations

May 4, 2006

6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Atwater Neighborhood City Hall

Attendance

CNAC Members: James Arbertha, Mike Barushok, Tom Fox, Isabelle Elder, Dorothy Nave, Isabelle Elder, Paula Givens, Ramona Simms-Henry, Eric Williams

Staff: Dave Barber, Scott Wadle

Other: Dr. Glen Day, Evelyn Tisdale, Lisa Thomas, Osband Holmes, Addie Lewis

Presenter: Deb Legge

The CNAC meeting was called to order by President James Arbertha. The meeting began with an opening prayer by Dorothy Nave. The discussion summary for April was approved by the CNAC members.

New Business

Community Gardens Update: Mr. Arbertha stated the gardens had been planted and all help would be appreciated.

Neighborhood Watch: Scott Wadle asked that members provide updated maps of active neighborhood watches in their areas. This would give an idea of areas to work on.

CNAC Initiatives Update: It was decided to focus on completing the initiatives that are being worked on before starting new projects. It was recommended that time lines be followed; find out which neighborhood associations are actively involved with these projects; try to get more people involved.

Ideas were shared to help increase neighborhood safety. Some recommendations included; turning on porch lights at night, adding extra lights, using motion lights, having private light poles installed, keep after utility companies when street lights are out.

Mike Barushok informed the group that Neighborhood Patrol could also be an added option to the Neighborhood Watch. Neighborhood Patrol are individuals trained to patrol their neighborhoods to help decrease crime activity. Special training is needed and classes should start near June. The contact person is Kelly Glassman.

Presenter:

Deb Legge with OCI answered questions submitted by the group about code violations and the process involved. Housing code violations can take seven months to a year for the first phase to be completed. Owners are given a chance to answer complaints; however, some owners live out

of the country and can be hard to contact. OCI may do an emergency board up to keep trespassers off the property.

Nuisance zoning issues including vehicle or graffiti removal will be done by the city at no cost to the property owner if a waiver is signed.

Property owners are given 60 days to fix up the property after an initial notice is given. If not in compliance after a follow up, official notice is given then may end up in court. Court is on Wednesdays.

Ms. Legge explained how STOP LIGHT has been designed to speed up foreclosures on abandoned property.

Programs such as Mission Rescue, group homes, and half way houses can provide people to help with neighborhood cleanups. There will be a clean up training class in march.

An ordinance was passed where property owners are given only one warning for tall weeds. If not taken care of, seasonal crews will mow and charge the owner.

Next Meeting

Thursday, June 1, 2006 at the Atwater Neighborhood City Hall at 6:30 p.m.